

# Great Lakes RESTORATION



2011

at the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The Great Lakes comprise the largest freshwater ecosystem on Earth. They contain 95 percent of the surface freshwater in the United States and more coastline than the entire east coast. The restoration and protection of the Great Lakes is vital, especially in Areas of Concern, which exhibit severe environmental degradation. To contribute to the restoration of the Great Lakes, \$300 million was invested in the region in 2011 by means of the *Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)*. As one of 15 Federal Agencies collaborating with U.S. EPA to implement this effort, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was allocated over \$17 million in 2011 to help accomplish restoration goals using its ground-breaking science, data products and services, predictive capabilities, and partnerships.

NOAA is making significant contributions to the restoration of AOCs through the GLRI by expanding and enhancing many existing programs and implementing new innovative projects that address the GLRI Action Plan.

## GLRI Projects and AOCs

### Toxic Substances & Areas of Concern

- Mussel Watch Expansion  
Contact: Kimani Kimbrough (kimani.kimbrough@noaa.gov)
- Lake Sturgeon Health Assessment  
Contact: Paula Bizot (paula.bizot@noaa.gov)
- Great Lakes Sediment Contamination Database Expansion  
Contact: Todd Goeks (todd.goeks@noaa.gov)

### Invasive Species

- Great Lakes Aquatic Nuisance Species Information System Expansion  
Contact: Rochelle Sturtevant (Rochelle.Sturtevant@noaa.gov)
- Regional Ecosystem Prediction- Aquatic Invasive Species in the Great Lakes  
Contact: Felix Martinez (felix.martinez@noaa.gov)

### Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution

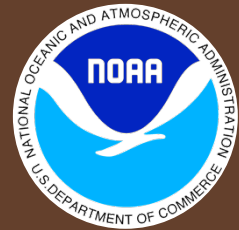
- Decision Support Tools for Nearshore Water Quality Prediction to Improve Coastal and Human Health and Beach Forecasting  
Contact: David Schwab (david.schwab@noaa.gov)
- Identifying Land Use Tipping Points that Threaten Great Lakes Ecosystems  
Contact: Doran Mason (doran.mason@noaa.gov)
- Great Lakes Observing System Implementation and Enhancement  
Contact: Steve Ruberg (steve.ruberg@noaa.gov)

### Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration

- AOC Land Acquisition  
Contact: Elizabeth Mountz (elizabeth.mountz@noaa.gov)
- AOC Project Design and Implementation  
Contact: Julie Sims (julie.sims@noaa.gov)
- Habitat Restoration Partnerships  
Contact: Julie Sims (julie.sims@noaa.gov)

### Accountability, Education, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication, and Partnership

- Capacity Building Support for Implementation of Lakewide Management Plans  
Contact: Erika Washburn (erika.washburn@noaa.gov)
- Coordination and Prioritization of Great Lakes Climate Change Activities  
Contact: Heather Stirratt (heather.stirratt@noaa.gov)



[www.greatlakesrestoration.us](http://www.greatlakesrestoration.us)

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and  
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***"We must leave  
the Great Lakes  
better for the next  
generation  
than the condition  
in which we  
inherited them."***

*Great Lakes  
Restoration  
Initiative Action Plan*